

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 OES-09  
L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AF-10 EA-10 NSC-05  
/100 W

-----002265 071713Z /42

R 071634Z SEP 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3452  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 20409

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: AORG IAEA EG  
SUBJECT: IAEA: EGYPTIAN DEMARCHE RE USG VOTE ON  
- BOARD OF GOVERNORS

REF: CAIRO 19470, STATE 214425, VIENNA 7597

1. MIN STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BOUTROS GHALI HAS SENT  
AMBASSADOR A LETTER OUTLINING EGYPTIAN POSITION ON IAEA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEMBERSHIP QUESTION. THIS LETTER IS  
IN REPLY TO AMBASSADOR'S AUGUST 21 LETTER ON THE SAME  
SUBJECT, REFERRED TO IN CAIRO REFTEL. FOR THE RECORD,  
THERE FOLLOWS BELOW THE TEXT OF BOTH LETTERS:

2. EGYPTIAN LETTER OF AUGUST 30.

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR,

I THANK YOU FOR THE CONCERN WHICH PROMPTED YOU TO SEND  
ME YOUR LETTER DATED 21ST, AUGUST 1978 REGARDING THE  
POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES ON MEMBERSHIP TO THE BOARD  
OF GOVERNORS OF THE IAEA. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MENTION  
SOME POINTS WHICH, IN OUR VIEW, ARE OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE.  
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WE BELIEVE THAT ARTICLES OF THE IAEA STATUTE DEALING WITH  
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS ARE NOT CONFINED TO  
ARTICLE 6/A. THIS VIEW, AS YOU ARE AWARE, IS SHARED BY  
A MAJORITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS MEMBERS. IN THIS RESPECT,  
I WOULD CITE ARTICLE 3/A/3 THAT STIPULATES THAT THE AGENCY  
IS AUTHORIZED TO FOSTER THE EXCHANGE OF SCIENTIFIC AND

TECHNICAL INFORMATION; AND ARTICLE 4/6 WHICH STIPULATES THAT THE (MEMBER) STATE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT THE OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP...GIVING DUE CONSIDERATION TO ITS ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER. WE BOTH SHARE THE VIEW THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS GROSSLY VIOLATING THE UN CHARTER, AND COULD ON NO ACCOUNT BE CONSIDERED AS "ACTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER." IN OTHER WORDS, THE CRITERION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD, AS STIPULATED IN ARTICLE 6, CANNOT AND INDEED, SHOULD NOT, BE TAKEN IN ISOLATION FROM THE OTHER STIPULATIONS, NAMELY THE ABILITY OF THE MEMBER TO ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE STATUTE OF THE IAEA, AND THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE UN CHARTER. ACCORDINGLY, WE CANNOT SEE THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME AS MEMBER OF THE BOARD FOR AFRICA, WHILE, TO SAY THE LEAST, IT CANNOT CONTRIBUTE TO FOSTERING THE EXCHANGE OF SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION WITH THE COUNTRIES OF ITS OWN REGION.

YOU MAY HAVE ALSO HEARD THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVE HIMSELF COULD NOT CONCEAL HIS SURPRISE, WHEN THE UNITED STATES SUBMITTED ITS PROPOSAL (IN AN AMENDMENT) CONCERNING HIS OWN COUNTRY. THAT SIGNIFICANT SURPRISE MAY WELL SUBSTANTIATE THE CONTENTION, FAIR OR OTHERWISE, THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS NOT "SUPPORTING" SOUTH AFRICA, CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT IN FACT WAS "INITIATING" THE CANDIDACY OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS. WHILE THANKING YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR LETTER, I SINCERELY SHARE YOUR VIEW THAT THE CLOSE AND CORDIAL RELATIONS THAT EXIST BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, WOULD ENCOURAGE OUR GOVERNMENTS TO CONSULT WITH ONE ANOTHER AS WE DO IN ALL OTHER FIELDS, AND MORE SPECIFICALLY WE WOULD WELCOME SUCH CONSULTATIONS BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING OF THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS. WITH MY BEST REGARDS.

YOURS SINCERELY,

BOUTROS BOUTROS GHALI  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

3. U.S. EMBASSY LETTER OF AUGUST 21.

EXCELLENCY:

FOLLOWING OUR DISCUSSION AUGUST 19 CONCERNING THE UNITED STATES POSITION ON THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEMBERSHIP ISSUE, IT SEEMED TO ME YOU MIGHT BE INTER-

ESTED IN THE ATTACHED STATEMENT SETTING FORTH THE REASONS FOR OUR POSITION. THE STATEMENT WAS DELIVERED BY THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AT THE JUNE MEETING OF THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS. IN EXPLAINING THE CONSTITUTIONAL REASONS WHY THE U.S. CONSIDERED ITSELF OBLIGATED TO SUPPORT SOUTH AFRICA AS THE "MOST ADVANCED" MEMBER FOR AFRICA, OUR REPRESENTATIVE STRESSED THAT OUR POSITION "REFLECTS NO LACK OF RESPECT FOR EGYPT, WITH WHICH THE UNITED STATES ENJOYS MOST CORDIAL RELATIONS."

I KNOW YOU ARE AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE MY GOVERNMENT ATTACHES TO PEACEFUL CHANGE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND TO PREVENTING THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THAT AREA. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THIS OBJECTIVE IS PROMOTED  
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BY STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE IAEA STATUTE. IN THIS CONVICTION WE ARE JOINED BY ALL MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AND CANADA AND AUSTRALIA, WHOSE REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD OF

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L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AF-10 EA-10 NSC-05  
/100 W

-----002289 071712Z /42

R 071634Z SEP 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3453  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 CAIRO 20409

GOVERNORS VOTED AS WE DID TO DESIGNATE SOUTH AFRICA AS THE "MOST ADVANCED" MEMBER FROM AFRICA. THESE GOVERNMENTS ALL HAVE EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH EGYPT AND SHARE WITH US AN ABOMINATION OF APARTHEID. I SUBMIT,

THEREFORE, THAT IT IS INACCURATE TO VIEW THE IAEA MEMBER-SHIP QUESTION AS A NORMAL CONTEST FOR INTERNATIONAL OFFICE BETWEEN EGYPT AND SOUTH AFRICA, TO BE INFLUENCED BY THE USUAL POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. THE SOLE ISSUE FOR MY GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN WHETHER THE TECHNICAL CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP SET FORTH IN THE IAEA STATUTE ARE MORE FULLY MET BY ONE COUNTRY THAN ANOTHER. THUS, THE U.S. POSITION IN THIS SPECIAL SET OF CIRCUMSTANCES HAS NO RELATION TO OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD OTHER EGYPTIAN CANDIDACIES, WHICH WILL NATURALLY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CLOSE STATE OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.

I HOPE THIS SATISFACTORILY EXPLAINS THE REASONS GOVERNING THE U.S. POSITION. AS THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES CONTINUE TO DEVELOP BOTH BILATERALLY AND MULTILATERALLY, I BELIEVE THAT CLOSE CONSULTATION BECOMES INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT. WE IN THIS EMBASSY WILL DO OUR BEST TO MAKE THIS DIALOGUE A FRUITFUL ONE. WARM PERSONAL REGARDS.

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SINCERELY YOURS,

HERMANN FREDERICK EILTS  
AMERICAN AMBASSADOR  
MATTHEWS

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## Message Attributes

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Sheryl P. Walter  
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